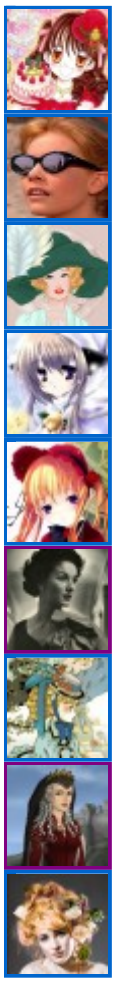
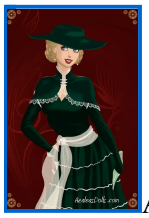
Search these: Members Search



3331 Aristasian Calendar

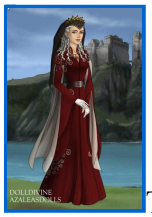
Recent Networkwide Posts

- Crystal Lindqvist wrote a new post, Me too!, on the site The Hildotter Hermitage 5 days, 15 hours ago

 As I think that I deserve a new outfit for Advent/Nativity as well:

Although the Snow Fairy costume was lovely as well:

- Amethyst Rill wrote a new post, New Virtual Outfits!, on the site The Hildotter Hermitage 5 days, 18 hours ago

   There is nothing like virtual paper dolls to improve my mood, and because I love to show off my virtual creations, here are the full outfits for the new avvies for Miss Hildotter, the Vika, and myself:

  <a […]

- Sushuri-chei wrote a new post, Advent and an new word, on the site The Mushroom Patch 1 week ago

  I really wanted to show you the leckie advent calendar my Mamala. It is so wonderful because every day you can see a new musical animation involving things like cute kitties and musical ursie-dolls and tivvy […]

- Elefarya Rosamunda wrote a new post, I could just *die*!, on the site Casa Rosamunda 1 week, 2 days ago

  I heartily approve the Takarazuka tradition of ending tragedies with a bonus “happy in the afterlife” scene.

- Elefarya Rosamunda wrote a new post, Advent music, on the site Casa Rosamunda 1 week, 4 days ago

  And now for your listening pleasure, the Sailor Moon Chorus:

- Elefarya Rosamunda wrote a new post, My strength is as the strength of ten, because my heart is pure, on the site Casa Rosamunda 1 week, 4 days ago

A maiden knight–to me is given
Such hope, I know not fear;
I yearn to breathe the airs of heaven
That often meet me here.
I muse on joy that will not cease,
Pure spaces clothed in living […]

- Morgan Hildotter wrote a new post, Happy Advent/Astraea 3332, on the site The Hildotter Hermitage 1 week, 4 days ago

Happy Advent! Below is the calendar for the month of Advent, or Astraea 3332:

- Morgan Hildotter wrote a new post, Lunar Eclipse, on the site The Hildotter Hermitage 1 week, 4 days ago

Oh dear! Oh dear! I have fallen down on my job as the resident astrologer. The beginning of advent this year has been marked with a Full Moon and a partial lunar eclipse, which was visible this morning in the […]

- Sushuri-chei wrote a new post, Jasmine Flower, on the site The Mushroom Patch 1 week, 6 days ago

Here is something beautiful I wanted to share with you all. It may remind some of you of home!

- Elefarya Rosamunda wrote a new post, A Point of Order About My Name, on the site Casa Rosamunda 2 weeks ago

So, I've been mulling over how maids address me for some time. Even my closest friends in the Amity group do not address me as Elefarea-chei or Miss Elefarea, you see. It seems not quite right for them to do so, […]

Group Admins

The Clubhouse

Public Group active 14 hours, 34 minutes ago ago

This is a group for activities of all kinds. It is a good place for discussions of various subjects that are "open" rather than on a particular member's blog and where one wants the permanence and the more sophisticated controls (enabling replies, quotations, editing etc.) of a Forum discussion rather than the "tweeting" character of regular updates.

It is open to any Heartbook member who wants to join.

- Home
- Forum
- Members 65

Viewing post 1 to 14 (14 total posts)

What Does Adult Mean in Aristasia? (14 posts)

← Group Forum Group Forum Directory

- Morgan Hildotter said 2 days, 23 hours ago ago:
  In our discussion regarding re-racination, the conversation turned briefly to the Pit idea that children were to be protected from the more poisonous and violent material, but that it was alright for adults to be exposed to such material. Sushuri-chei said she did not see why adults should expose themselves to bad things either.

  On another note, there has been criticism of Aristasia in its current form as being too childlike, and not being adult enough.

  All of this brings up a fundamental question….what does "adult" mean? In the Pit, there is a strange usage of the term that often applies to things that show "grown up schizomorph g'doodlings" (to borrow a phrase coined by Sushuri-chei, that I *love*, by the way), often in a

VERY ugly and distasteful manner. That seems quite strange, because aside from being quite poisonous and ugly, it seems quite immature on many levels.

We also believe, I think, that maids should not lose their innocence or sense of fundamental goodness when they grow up, so even mature Aristasians generally continue to maintain a sense of naivete that would be considered childlike in the Pit (I am not sure why, really).

To further provide fuel for thought, at least here, our soul and/or persona ages do not always match the age of our flavvies. There are children in adult flavvies, and there are those like myself, who have had adult personae ever since earliest childhood.

I was going to say that being adult was about being responsible, but then I thought of Sushuri-chei, who had quite responsibly held us all together and has faithfully discharged her functions for many years. I have also seen grown-ups behave quite irresponsibly.

On the other hand, all of us seem to be able to recognize our soul/personae ages, for the most part. I am a funny case, with 3 very adult personae, the Vika, Miss Lindqvist, and myself (although, Miss Linqvist is much younger than the Vika and I), a persona in her mid 20′s, who I consider a bit in between an adult and a child, Miss Rill, and of course, my child persona, Selene. Other than a gestalt KNOWING of our ages, I am struggling to find words for what "adult" really means.

Given that, I thought that this might be a fruitful topic for discussion.
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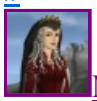
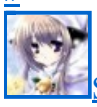
-  Morgan Hildotter said 2 days, 20 hours ago ago:
Oh…a brief clarification to the above post, now that I re-read it.

I do understand and agree with the notion that adults should not lose their innocence or sense of fundamental goodness. I do not know why the Pit tends to view naivete as childlike.
#

-  Sushuri-chei said 2 days, 20 hours ago ago:
Fascinating post – quickie-quickie as I am dreffly busified with studies right now. But there is an image used before that I would bring up.

Think of a singer from, say the Tellurian 1930s and one from the Pit.
They are both in their 20s. Which seems older? The Pit one is maybe dressed in clothes that are either scruffy or outrageous. The real one is dressed like a grown-up (which in the Pit most people do only if they are forced to). The real one looks like – well, a real person. The Pit one looks like a hobo or a – well loose person, or like someone dressed purely to attract attention in a very heavy-handed and obvious way. Which one looks more grown-up?

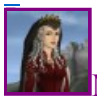
On the other hand the real one has a face that is open and innocent. The Pit one has a face that is at once hardened by suspicion and cynicism [I mean of the deep-rooted cultural sort that makes even a Pit tourist flyer more essentially cynical in its language than a Japanese political pamphlet] and loosened by carnal promiscuity and the attitudes that go with it [and the attitudes

are culture wide and affect even the rare singer who is not an active participant]. In a way the real one looks much younger. In another way she looks much older.

I think “old” and “young” are not absolute terms here. Certain aspects of youth and maturity are stressed by each culture. Gen. MacArthur, while occupying Japan and restructuring the society at nuke-point, said that the Japanese had a mental age of 12. He was speaking of one of the most sophisticated civilizations on his planet. He was also speaking from the world of the real singer rather than the bongo one. But clearly even then the West had ideas of “maturity” that were tightly bound up with cynicism and loss of innocence – and of course with excessive individualism.

Just a note on the fly to maybe give us a few thinking-points.

#

-  Morgan Hildotter said 2 days, 19 hours ago ago:

What an odd inversion you mention, Sushuri-chei, regarding “maturity” being tightly bound to excessive individualism. For the moment, I am putting aside the issues of cynicism and loss of innocence….because the inversion is really interesting! As you say, this inversion seems to have existed in the West pre-Eclipse, and has of course, gotten worse, not better, post-Eclipse.

It seems odd to me, because excessive individualism is the exact opposite of what *I* would associate with maturity. In my thinking on this subject, children are allowed, and even expected, to be a bit self-centered, but part of being an adult means to be responsible to and for others. That is why I think that the natural order of things means that children give deference to adults, because adults are *supposed* to be seeing the bigger picture and be providing care and guidance to children. Yes, adults have greater freedom on one level, but that is supposed to be in exchange for greater responsibility.

For example, when I appear as Selene, I feel like I should give deference to any adult. In exchange for that, I am signalling (by my being in that persona) that I am not assuming the responsibilities of an adult. I might be a bit more self-focused and not expecting to have to look out for anyone. Just the opposite, I am expecting to be looked out for myself. Whereas, when I appear in this persona, I am very conscious that I am expected to behave as a mature adult, and I would not be given the indulgence that one would extend to a child. Of course, I am not perfect, and there are times when I have not acted as I should, but when that happens in this persona, I feel much more culpable, if that makes sense.

On a similar note, I used to think I was the main persona, and I may or may not be….I am realizing that personae are not that simple or organized, as much as I like them to be. On the other hand, as the oldest, most mature persona, I do feel responsible for my family. As an example, if Selene or even Miss Rill, misbehaved, I would feel responsible for their behavior. On the other hand, if *I* misbehaved, I would not feel that they were responsible for me.

#

- Catherine Sarvieri said 2 days, 19 hours ago ago:

A mistake which I think is commonly made by Tellurians is to believe that when one 'becomes' an adult, one automatically stops being a child. It is important to remember that while a maid's flavvie may be thirty-five, it is also thirty-four, twenty-two, sixteen and nine at the same time. Now – when does a person become an adult? I suppose it is different for everyone. To me, an 'adult' is essentially someone who is willing to take responsibility for their actions and who has a certain emotional independence. However, that's just my opinion.

#

- Elefarya Rosamunda said 2 days, 18 hours ago ago:

I think perhaps as well adulthood feels quite different depending on whether one is a blonde or a brunette. For me, childhood was the time of trying things, and adulthood the time of deliberately growing into my proper sphere as a brunette. That meant facing outward to protect those at the center, as opposed to being in the center myself. I'm not sure a blonde would feel that this was natural to her.

I also felt, as I grew in true maturity (I grew in both true and false maturity) that there was much more room in my head and that certain doings grew much less difficult. I grew in mental strength. A clear demonstration of this was when I went back to school and just did my schoolwork because I had to instead of struggling over it and ignoring it because it was hard. I cannot speak to the universality of this experience.

Well, them's my ramblings on the topic.

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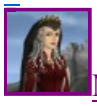
-  Morgan Hildotter said 2 days, 17 hours ago ago:

Hmmm….you might be on to something, Elefarya-chei, in that maturity for blondes and brunettes might be different. I am thinking a bit about what Miss Sarvieri said with respect to "emotional independence," because as a mature blonde I see things as just the opposite. Maturity, to me, means more and more complex webs of relationships and interdependence, such as spousal relationships and care for elderly parents and/or grandparents. For some, it means being responsible for children, one's own, of course, but also those younger than oneself to whom one my be assuming a parental or quasi-parental role, such as younger sisters, nieces, cousins, or even unrelated younger girls who might be looking up to an older adult for support and as a model. It also means a certain amount of responsibility to look for and seek out guidance for oneself, in order to be better equipped to discharge one's responsibilities better.

I think that protectiveness one feels as a mature blonde is a bit different than what a mature brunette would feel. I think, from my own experience, and in comparing myself with my brunette spouse, I tend to be more concerned with the emotional and spiritual needs of others and more cognizant of spiritual dangers, while Miss Swift is much, much better at noticing and thinking of the physical and practical needs and looking out for physical danger. Miss Swift tends to pay more attention to things like the household finances, whereas I tend to be alert for signs of us growing apart or if there are emotional or spiritual needs that were unmet.

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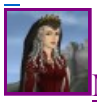
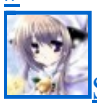
-  Morgan Hildotter said 2 days, 16 hours ago ago:

I was thinking more about what you said, Elefarya-chei, about as a mature brunette, one faces outward to protect those in the center. I think as a mature blonde, one moves further into the center, to help hold the web of relationships together.

#

-  Sushuri-chei said 2 days, 15 hours ago ago:
I think “emotional independence” can mean various things. In the Motherland the “independent adult” idea as developed in West Telluria is really not present – but at the same time I realize that I have a degree of emotional dependence that adults (even traditional ones) do not. So I think “emotional independence” does have a meaning here – even though not the one West Tellurians might first think of.

  I know I keep making Japanese references, but I think they are useful in that they do give a different point of reference from within Telluria and one that is more traditional. On this subject there is a very interesting one.

  The Japanese word for “adult” (the noun) is ?? otona. ?=big ?=person. It is used in the same way as “adult” in English: e.g. “otona ni naru toki” = “when I grow up”.

  The word ???? otonashii is the adjectival form of otona. The dictionary definition of otonashii is “obedient; docile; quiet “. These are the things a child learns to be, and an adult should have learned. Of course West Telluri will immediately say “It is too dangerous to be like that in the Pit (or the “real world” as they might rather oddly phrase it). And undoubtedly they are right. When there are bad shepherds it is dangerous to be good sheep (though unfortunately that is just what the mass-produced “rebel” *is*, but that is another matter).

  In the Motherland, though, I think otonashii is very much what we mean by “adult”.

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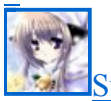
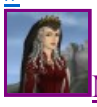
-  Sushuri-chei said 2 days, 15 hours ago ago:
For some reason the Clubhouse ate my Japanese. For those interested, here is a graphic version:
大人=otona 大=big 人=person 大人しい=otonashii

  #

-  Morgan Hildotter said 2 days, 15 hours ago ago:
Oh, how interesting, Sushuri-chei. Your studies of the Japanese language have shed a great deal of light on many of these matters!

  There was a time I would have agreed with the dangers of obedience and docility, particularly in the Pit; however, I think that you also hit the nail on the head in pointing out that the mass produced “rebel” is being a good sheep of the Pit.

  I think that we will be obedient to something, or someone, no matter how old we get. We are obedient, whether we are aware of it or not. We were created that way. I think that the real question is who or what we are obedient to. In the Motherland, and to a lesser extent here in our little Protectorate, we have the Golden Chain and rather solid, untainted Tradition. That

does not give us a lot of guidance in our interactions in Telluria, but I think that a good knowledge of our Tradition and Scriptures can give a ruler by which to measure the "powers that be" in Telluria, and to help give us discernment as to who and to what extent we are obedient there.

As many of you know, in Telluria, I am affiliated with the Quakers, and the teaching from that Tradition is to be obedient to the powers that be because even the vestiges of authority that still exist are from Dea. The exception to this is when the orders or rules of the powers that be are in violation of one's conscience, but even in that disobedience, one willingly and voluntarily accepts the consequences for disobedience. Also, one should submit the decision to engage in such disobedience to the community for community discernment whenever possible, and there is a process for convening "clearness committees" for these decisions (and many other decisions one makes as an adult). This exception is in recognition that the culture has collapsed, and that Tellurian "authority" is corrupted and broken. I would think that this would not really apply in the Motherland.
#

- Elefarya Rosamunda said 2 days, 12 hours ago ago:
This discussion reminds me very much of A Wind in the Door. Specifically the farandolae. The farandolae were these tiny, beyond microscopic creatures living in everyone's mitochondria. Mitochondria, of course, are the tiny organelles in our cells that produce energy. Inside these mitochondria were the young farandolae, small dancing creatures, and the older farandolae, which were more like trees. Over time a farandolae would stop dancing and "deepen" into this later tree-like form. If this didn't happen, the balance of the mitochondria was thrown off and this imbalance spread until the greater organism weakened and died.

I think that's growing up – we deepen into ourselves, becoming a little less zippy for the sake of the whole. I also think that the youngest of us here are far more grown up than most denizens of the Pit ever become.

Actually, the metaphor of A Wind In the Door can be carried lots further, with the necessity of being named as oneself in order to deepen etc, etc, but that's a conversation for another day.
#

- Crystal Lindqvist said 2 days, 10 hours ago ago:
Rosa-chei, you have Selene grinning from ear to ear with your reference to "A Wind in the Door." That entire trilogy was quite wonderful, and I think contained a lot of wisdom for a Tellurian post-Eclipse series of novels.*

What you just said made me think of the "youth culture" that has been prevalent in Telluria after the Eclipse (I am not sure if it was there pre-Eclipse). Rather than taking their place as honored Elders, many older adults in the Pit try to act and be more "youthful"….from the way they dress to horrid things they do to their bodies to hide the effects of age. Of course, the Pit also devalues Elders, so it would make sense that adults would try hard to avoid growing into that category.

I think, though, that failure to “deepen” on the part of those who would be the honored Elders really hastens the pace of the decline in the Pit, and feeds into the diseases of atomization, deracination, and deformation there.

---

*I do not know that I could recommend this book or trilogy to our fully racinated Maids, because it has been a *long* time since I read it, so I would have to look at it again to see. I do not remember anything that would be problematic….but again, it has been a LONG time.
#

- Selene Katten said 1 day, 21 hours ago ago:
I am not sure whether this is relevant to this discussion….but Sushuri-chei’s mention that adult in Japanese also meant, “quiet, docile, obedient” brought to mind a memory from when my flavvie was 17 and we went to Sweden.

Anyways, we went to dinner at the house of one of our many relatives there, and they served caviar. I know caviar is expensive and is a delicacy, but to be honest, I really did not like it all that much. Knowing that it was a delicacy and that our hostess was honoring us by serving it, I ate it anyways, and I pretended I liked it (or at least, I hid the fact that I did not like it). Anyways, afterwards, my grandmother said she was proud of me, and how grown up that was.

I thought that might shed a little light on this discussion as well.

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Mother God Chapel

- Magic and Religion
Magic and Religion: What does the Faith of Our Mother God say about magic? […]
- The feast of the Conception of God the Daughter
Advent is upon us and we are decorating our homes in preparation for the coming of God the Daughter. 10th Astraea (8th December) is the Feast of the Conception of God the Daughter.

Please read more about this joyous festival which is often considered to be the beginning of the true Advent period. […]

- Cuivanya - the Autumnal Equinox
  Cuivanya is the great Autumnal Equinox festival of Our Mother God. Learn more about it and also the truth about the "Earth Mother". […]
- The Metaphysics of Japanese Kanji
  A fascinating article on the metaphysical meaning of Japanese Characters by Goldenhead author Annalinde Matichei. Anyone interested in how our spiritual traditions are embedded in the fundamental structure of language, both East and West should read this essay. […]
- chelanya: the Golden Festival
  Chelana begins the Mysteries of Life Cycle and is the first great harvest festival of Our Mother God. […]
- The High Feast of Rosa Mundi
  Rosa Mundi is the great Summer Solstice festival of Our Mother God […]
- Maia: the Goddess, the Month and the World-illusion
  Maia is the second month of the year, the "goddess" of spring and the illusion of worldly existence. […]
- The Day of Maia
  The Day of Maia is a minor festival dedicated to the all-creative principle of nature. […]
- Easter Hymn for Devotees of Our Mother God
  An Easter Hymn for Passiontide, expressing the wasteland quality of the time between the Daughter's death and the New Year with a discussion of the nature of our feminine Easter. […]
- The Last Day of the Year
  Rayadi Moura 28th (Sunday March 18th) is the last day of the year in the Filianic calendar. It is the day that the Daughter goes down into death and the world above becomes a wasteland. This year there is a two-day hiatus, so the following two days have no date in the Filianic calendar. They are days-out-of-time, non-days in which the Sustainer of the Univer […]

Aristasian Literature

- Metaphysics of the Kanji
  To anyone reasonably well versed in traditional metaphysics, the meaning of some of the basic kanji is immediately and transparently obvious. The traditional explanation of the kanji for "monarch"[right], for example, is that of the joining of the three worlds … Continue reading → […]
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- Text-only Anime!
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- Anime Novel Launched by Anime Authoress at International Book Fair
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- Goldenhead Launch
  In a hotel in Ensenada, a bustling port town in Mexico. It is damp and rainy, although the Book Festival itself, I am told is inland in a desert climate and our stand is outside, so I am hoping we … Continue reading → […]
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- Goldenhead Launching at International Book Festival
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